

COMPARISON OF CASES FROM 1997 TO 2006

During the past few years, many public defenders have indicated that their caseloads have substantially increased. In an attempt to determine if this was a statewide experience and if it was merely perception or real, we did some quick assessment of the court data submitted quarterly to the State Court Administrator's Office which is compiled into annual judicial reports. The following tables are the number of cases filed, the "pauper" or indigent appointments, and the indigence rates for the various classes of criminal cases. Although the quality of the data varies considerable from county to county, what is apparent is that the criminal case filings (except for Class D felonies) have not substantially increased in the past decade, but the percent of indigent cases has significantly increased in the past few years.

CASES FILED - ALL COURTS										
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
CRIMINAL										
Murder						279	243	234	232	228
Felony*	14,980	14,722	14,715	15,964	16,443	0	0	0	0	0
Class A						2,534	2,505	2,577	2,671	2,829
Class B						5,525	5,902	5,982	5,717	5,906
Class C						9,340	9,500	9,596	10,025	10,039
Class D	37,034	39,064	39,167	39,144	40,634	42,961	44,690	47,498	48,266	48,985
Misd.	201,761	225,207	199,016	198,680	201,639	204,239	200,347	203,161	201,711	197,372
Post Conviction	866	935	1,097	1,225	1,206	1,385	1,213	1,072	970	878
Misc. Criminal	8,791	9,893	9,912	11,329	13,762	17,059	17,642	26,259	21,306	24,335
Infractions	599,638	667,974	654,838	754,933	839,762	885,562	740,201	641,144	691,506	774,285
Ordinance Violations	73,574	104,435	90,648	92,409	88,121	115,638	97,205	91,521	86,084	102,065
	936,644	1,062,230	1,009,393	1,113,684	1,201,567	1,284,522	1,119,448	1,029,044	1,068,488	1,166,923
JUVENILE										
CHINS	6,854	7,236	7,772	8,080	7,888	8,215	8,655	9,574	9,865	8,861
Delinquency	28,755	25,563	24,643	24,419	25,547	26,101	25,861	26,653	26,926	27,835
Status	6,069	5,618	5,389	6,033	6,375	6,314	6,832	6,460	6,661	7,448
Paternity	14,602	13,638	14,318	15,442	16,147	16,310	17,813	16,710	18,277	20,651
Misc.	6,977	6,669	7,331	6,244	6,434	6,281	6,715	7,245	2,224	8,969
TPR	920	1,271	1,816	1,637	1,551	1,513	1,801	2,097	2,224	2,553
Total	64,197	59,995	61,269	61,855	63,942	64,734	68,577	68,739	71,112	76,317

CASES IN WHICH PAUPER COUNSEL WAS APPOINTED										
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Murder						198	169	212	231	158
Felony*	11,968	11,237	11,574	12,528	13,476					
Class A Felony						1,391	1,641	1,795	2,021	2,036
Class B Felony						3,472	4,167	4,985	6,410	5,128
Class C Felony						6,482	6,932	7,661	8,688	8,137
Class D Felony	17,476	18,194	18,477	19,317	21,777	23,712	28,074	31,480	31,503	31,621
Criminal Misdemeanor	44,726	40,708	41,822	40,357	42,982	45,169	47,494	51,637	53,905	51,965
CHINS			1,338	1,456	1,577	2,164	2,488	3,358	3,461	4,981
Delinquency	12,575	12,963	12,887	12,200	12,982	14,149	12,649	16,437	18,748	18,460
Status	1,296	1,411	1,199	1,347	1,385	1,417	1,358	1,963	1,911	1,752
TPR								1,081	849	1,448
Juve. Paternity	536	600	676	1,119	939	1,085	1,187	2,661	3,357	2,312
Other	2,450	2,865	1,994	2,372	2,496	5,411	6,240	5,850	4,977	5,323
PCR	49	680	629	679	683	658	184	626	707	862
Appeals	359	447	216	240	270	276	449	312	469	476
Total	91,435	89,105	90,812	91,615	98,567	105,584	113,033	130,058	137,237	134,501

*Beginning in 2002, the "Criminal Felony" category was subdivided into the 4 felony classes, A, B, C and D.

INDIANA INDGENCY RATES FOR CRIMINAL CASES, 2002-2006									
	2002			2003			2004		
	Cases filed	Indigent apptmnts	Indigency rate	Cases filed	Indigent apptmnts	Indigency rate	Cases filed	Indigent apptmnts	Indigency rate
Murder	279	198	70.97%	243	169	69.55%	234	212	90.60%
A Felony	2534	1391	54.89%	2505	1641	65.51%	2577	1795	69.65%
B Felony	5525	3472	62.84%	5902	4167	70.60%	5982	4985	83.33%
C Felony	9340	6482	69.40%	9500	6932	72.97%	9596	7661	79.84%
D Felony	42,961	23,712	55.19%	44,690	28,075	62.82%	47,498	31,480	66.28%
Misd.	204,239	45,169	22.12%	200,347	47,494	23.71%	203,161	51,637	25.42%
Total	264,878	80,424		263,187	88,478		269,048	97,770	
	2005			2006					
	Cases filed	Indigent apptmnts	Indigency rate	Cases filed	Indigent apptmnts	Indigency rate			
Murder	232	231	99.57%	228	158	69.30%			
A Felony	2671	2021	75.66%	2829	2036	71.97%			
B Felony	5717	6410	112.12%	5906	5128	86.83%			
C Felony	10,025	8,688	88.66%	10,039	8,137	81.05%			
D Felony	48,266	31,503	65.27%	49,985	31,621	64.55%			
Misd.	201,711	53,905	26.72%	197,372	51,965	26.33%			
Total	268,622	102,758		265,359	99,045				